

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 115888

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DRAFTED BY ACDA/GC:JHMCNEILL

APPROVED BY ACDA/GC:JLMALONE

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AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

UNCLAS STATE 115888

FOLLOWING REPEAT IAEA VIENNA 3562 ACTION SECSTATE INFO USERDA

30 APR 76

QUOTE

UNCLAS IAEA VIENNA 3562

DEPT PASS IO/SCT AND ACDA FOR MALONE AND DAVIES FROM MCNEILL

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PARM, TECH, IAEA, US

SUBJ: IAEA CONSULTANTS MEETING ON LEGAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL
ASPECTS OF IAEA REGIONAL NUCLEAR FUEL-CYCLE CENTER STUDY:
CLOSING SESSIONS

REF: IAEA VIENNA 3510, B. IAEA VIENNA 3511

UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 STATE 115888

1. PENULTIMATE SESSION OF SUBJECT MEETING HELD 29 APRIL (EARLIER SESSIONS DESCRIBED REFTELS), CONSIDERED RECOMMENDATIONS FOR NEXT STEPS TO BE UNDERTAKEN TO ENCOURAGE PROGRESS TOWARD COMPLETION OF STUDY AND REALIZATION OF ITS GOALS. CONSULTANTS CONSIDERED VARIOUS APPLICATIONS OF STUDY GROUP MECHANISM, E.G., SUGGESTION THAT IAEA COULD ITSELF SPONSOR SUCH GROUPS ON BASIS OF WRITTEN UNDERSTANDING WITH PARTICIPANT STATES FOUND SUPPORT.

2. UK CONSULTANT ROOKE (URENCO) ASKED CONSULTANTS TO DESCRIBE PURPOSE AND GOALS OF REGIONAL NUCLEAR FUEL-CYCLE CENTERS (RFCC) AND ASKED SPECIFICALLY IF THE PURPOSE WOULD BE THE REALIZATION OF COMMERCIAL PROFIT. THE ONLY REPLY OFFERED TO THIS QUESTION WAS PROVIDED BY MCNEILL (ACDA), WHO STATED HIS UNDERSTANDING THAT RFCC CONCEPT SOUGHT TO REALIZE TWO GOALS, NEITHER OF WHICH WAS COMMERCIAL PROFIT. MCNEILL SAID FIRST GOAL WAS TO PROVIDE AN ASSURED SOURCE OF SERVICES TO PARTICIPANTS NUCLEAR POWER PROGRAMS, REFLECTING PRESENT-DAY NEED FOR SPENT-FUEL STORAGE SERVICES AND, WHEN ECONOMICALLY JUSTIFIED, WOULD PROVIDE REPROCESSING SERVICES AS WELL. MCNEILL SAID THAT THESE SERVICES WOULD BE SUPPLIED BY A MULTINATIONAL CENTER, IN WHICH BOTH SUPPLIERS AND RECIPIENTS WOULD PARTICIPATE, OPERATED IN A MANNER WHICH WOULD THEREBY REALIZE THE SECOND AND EQUALLY IMPORTANT GOAL OF THE RFCC, ENHANCED INTERNATIONAL SECURITY. MCNEILL NOTED IN CLOSING THAT, ALTHOUGH COMMERCIAL PROFIT NOT RFCC GOAL IN HIS UNDERSTANDING OF CONCEPT, THIS DID NOT MEAN THAT RFCC WOULD NOT BE OPERATED ON SOUND FISCAL PRINCIPLES SO THAT ECONOMIES OF SCALE COULD BE MAXIMIZED. BOTH ROOKE AND MECKONI (IAEA) WELCOMED THIS STATEMENT OF GOALS; OTHER CONSULTANTS MAINTAINED SILENCE.

3. REMAINDER OF SESSION DEVOTED TO DRAFTING OF CONSULTANTS MEETING REPORT BY STUGER (AUSTRIA) AND MCNEILL. REPORT ENDORSED BY FINAL CONSULTANTS MEETING 30 APRIL. CONSULTANTS FURTHER AGREED THAT UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 STATE 115888

NEXT MEETING OF EXPANDED LEGAL-INSTITUTIONAL CONSULTANTS GROUP (JUNE 28-JULY 2) SHOULD REVIEW DRAFT SECRETARIAT WORKING PAPER AS REVISED TO REFLECT VIEWS EXPRESSED DURING SUBJECT MEETING. FINAL REPORT AND REVISED DRAFT WORKING PAPER EXPECTED TO BE FORWARDED TO INVITEES TO JUNE MEETING WITHIN TWO WEEKS TIME.
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